# The Oak and Holly Kings

**Breanna - Narrator:** Since the beginning of the world, the power of summer and winter battle two times each year to control the land. The Oak King, the lord of spring and summer, rules over light and warmth. The Holly King, lord of fall and winter, has the power of darkness and cold. Two times each year, at the winter and summer solstices, the Kings meet in battle to decide whose power shall win for the next six months.

**Marc - Holly King:** I am the king of winter. See my works and be happy! The night sky is dark and beautiful. The winter snow is white and beautiful. My evergreen trees stand tall and proud. There is bugs to bother you during my time. Everything is quiet, and pure. All is as it should be. May winter last forever!

**Alex - Oak King:** No, my brother! It is time for your control to end. Yes, the long nights are pretty, but now the sun must return. The blue sky of summer is just as beautiful as the starry sky of winter. The evergreen trees are beautiful, but so are the apple, maple, and oak trees. Snow is a wonder to see, but so are flowers. Insects may buzz, but they also bring life to flowers and fruit trees. Your time must end. Spring must come!

**Marc - Holly King:** My brother, if you want to control the land, then you must take it from me by force. Let us battle.

**Alex - Oak King:** Yes, my brother. Spring must arrive, and so I will do as I must. Let us battle!

*The two kings begin mock battle. At first, they are evenly matched, but the Holly King briefly appears to be winning.*

**Briana - Narrator:** And so they fought, brother-vs-brother, same as they two have done since world began.

**Marc - Holly King**: See! I hold the power of night, the power of winter. Yield to me, and I will spare you!

**Alex- Oak King:** Never! I must bring back the power of the sun. I will not yield!

*The Oak King falls to the ground but then rolls away from a sword blow and regains his stance. Now he appears to have renewed purpose and determination.*

**Allision - Narrator:** Will winter last forever? Or will the Oak King be victorious?

The Oak King’s combat prowess increases and the Holly King starts slowly retreating under the Oak King’s relentless blows.

**Marc - Holly King:** No! Winter must continue!

**Alex - Oak King:** There must be balance, my brother!

The Holly King is now obviously running out of energy. Under the barrage of blows, he drops to one knee, then collapses to a heap on the floor. The Oak King stops swinging his weapon and holds his sword/staff at the ready position, aimed at the fallen Holly King.

**Marc - Holly King:** I yield. I am defeated. But I ask of you, my brother, that you spare me.

The Oak King extends a hand to the Holly King and raises him to his feet.

**Alex - Oak King:** Of course I shall spare you, my brother. You are need just as much as I am. The land must have balance between light and dark, warm and cold, waking and sleeping. Take your rest now. And we shall meet again at midsummer.

*The Holly King bows respectfully to the Oak King and exits.*

**Marc - Oak King:** Let the light return. Let the days grow longer. May life return to the land. So mote it be!

**Breanna - Narrator:** And so the balance of power shifts from darkness to light. From now until midsummer, the days shall increase and the skies will brighten. All is as it should be. Blessed be.